

OEA Summer Leadership Academy June 2021

Melissa Clark, Robert Davis, and Matt Dotson
OEA Lobbyists



OHIO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

HB 110 State Budget Bill

- HB 110 is the state budget bill for FY 2022 and 2023
- Bill currently in conference committee
- Passage by June 30, 2021
- Historic opportunity to address school funding and other policy issues



OHIO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

School Funding

- Top OEA Priority
- Ohio currently does not have a functional school funding formula
- House-passed, bipartisan Fair School Funding Plan provides \$1.8 billion more state aid to schools over 6 years – more than \$1,200 per pupil increase in state aid (\$7,200 average base cost when fully phased in)
- Senate proposal gives kids an additional \$90 more than what they got 3 years ago (\$6,110 per pupil)



OHIO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

School Funding – Fair School Funding Plan

- The Fair School Funding Plan seeks to base funding on what students need and what educators need in our classrooms to provide a high-quality education. The plan commits state funding for these needs.
- Developed by school funding experts, school treasurers, superintendents, board members and educators
- Overwhelming bipartisan support (~90% of the Ohio House voted for it last year)
- Endorsed by major education organizations

School Funding – Fair School Funding Plan

- Reduces need for local levies
- Once fully funded removes the majority of districts from the guarantee
- Eliminates Gain Caps
- ~70% of all the new revenue goes to poorest districts
- Direct funding of charters and vouchers rather than deductions from school districts (Senate proposal also contains this provision)



OHIO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

School Funding – Senate Proposal

- The Senate proposal does not base funding of what components are needed for a high-quality education
- Uses old data to calculate formula
- Unfairly bases what districts can afford to contribute upon what *other* districts are contributing
- Does not address the over-reliance on local property taxes
- Continues the use of measures to control state cost

Academic Distress Commissions

- Establishes a pathway out of state takeover status for the three districts under control of an Academic Distress Commission/CEO (Youngstown, Lorain, East Cleveland):
 - District submits improvement plan to state superintendent for approval.
 - Local control returned during implementation of improvement plan: “The district shall not be subject to section 3302.10 of the Revised Code (state takeover law).”
 - If a district meets a majority of academic benchmarks in improvement plan after three, four, or five years, the district is permanently released.
 - If district does not meet a majority of academic benchmarks after five years, district returns to state takeover status (ADC/CEO).



OHIO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Vouchers

Senate version of budget does the following:

- Removes the cap on the number of EdChoice vouchers (currently 60,000)
- Increases the maximum EdChoice voucher amount from \$4,650 to \$5,500 for grades K-8 and from \$6,000 to \$7,500 in grades 9-12.
- Expands eligibility for the EdChoice voucher program to include the following:



OHIO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Vouchers

- Asking that Senate language on voucher expansion be removed
- Lawmakers should focus on funding our public schools which serve 90% of students and are open to all
- Voucher programs lack accountability and do not have a track record of improving student performance
- Removal of cap, increased eligibility and voucher amounts would greatly increase costs
- We have a chance to fix school funding with the FSFP



OHIO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Charter Schools

- Allows new start up charter schools to open anywhere in the state (not just “challenged districts,” (challenged districts are currently defined as the Big Eight urban districts and districts with certain “low performing” ratings on the state report card). Charters are direct funded by the state under House and Senate funding plans.
- Allows charter schools to be operated by a sectarian school or religious institution or to be sectarian in their programs, admissions policies, employment practices, and all other operations.



OHIO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Charter Schools

- Allows new start up charter schools to open anywhere in the state (not just “challenged districts,” (challenged districts are currently defined as the Big Eight urban districts and districts with certain “low performing” ratings on the state report card). Charters are direct funded by the state under House and Senate funding plans.
- Allows charter schools to be operated by a sectarian school or religious institution or to be sectarian in their programs, admissions policies, employment practices, and all other operations.

Computer Science Licensure

Extends through the 2022-2023 school year a current law exemption for the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years that permits an individual who does not hold a license or endorsement to teach computer science to teach computer science courses (provided the individual meets other prescribed licensure and professional development requirements).

Report Card Bills

HB 200 and SB 145 contain separate packages of proposals intended to improve problems with the current state report card system:

- Both eliminate A-F letter grades: SB 145 replaces with 1-5 star ratings; HB 200 replaces with six levels of expectations/support-based ratings (highest is “significantly exceeds expectations” and lowest is “in need of support”).
- SB 145 amended to include “Student Opportunity Profile” (SOP) requested by OEA. HB 200 also expected to be amended to include SOP.
- Various differences in bills are being negotiated to develop a final compromise package.



OHIO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

HB 99 Arming Educators

- HB 99 would reverse the 12th District Court of Appeals ruling on *Gabbard v. Madison Local School Dist. Bd. of Edn.*, 2020-Ohio-1180, that is now pending in the Ohio Supreme Court
- Current law requires the same training as law enforcement (700 hours)
- HB 99 would allow school personnel to carry guns in schools with 8 hours of training (only 2 hours of in-person training)
- Currently pending in Ohio House Criminal Justice Committee



OHIO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

HB 73- Reduce Testing

- Sponsored by Reps. Gayle Manning and Erica Crawley
- Ends student retention under the TGRG
- Would establish district workgroups of teachers, parents and administrators to review testing load on students and make recommendations to school board
- Requires districts that exceed testing caps to pass a resolution and report to ODE
- Reduces state testing by two tests (Fall 3rd grade ELA, combines HS Am. History/Am. Gov. exam)

Other bills getting hearings:

HB 151: Eliminates Resident Educator Summative Assessment (RESA)

SB 1: Creates a half-unit financial literacy requirement for graduation.

THANK YOU!

www.ohea.org

OEA

OHIO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

The OEA will lead the way for the continuous improvement of public education while advocating for members and the learners they serve.